

INTRODUCTION

into TOPOGRAPHIC ANATOMY

of Head & Neck

Prof. Peter Stanko, MD, PhD

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon

Dpt. of Stomatology & Maxillofacial Surgery

Comenius University, St Elisabeth Hospital

Term ANATOMY

from Greek *anatomé* = „a cutting up“

SYSTEMATIC ANATOMY

- As a science deals with morphology and structures of the human body.
- Its sound knowledge forms a basis for understanding of other subdivisions of the anatomy and is required to all clinical medical specialties.

Division of anatomy - criteriums

▶ The main criterium by the systematic anatomy is **functional point of view** i. e. systems (e.g. skeletal and muscular systems, cardiovascular system, digestive system, respiratory system, central and peripheral nervous system, urogenital system, integumentary system with skin and epidermal derivatives etc.).

Other subdivisions of anatomy:

- ▶ Macroscopic (or gross anat.) and Microscopic (close to histology),
- ▶ Developmental (experimental, close to embryology),
- ▶ Antropological (description and measurments on larger groups of humans),
- ▶ anatomy of the External forms (for painters and sculptors).
- ▶ Comparative (between humans and animals),

- ▶▶▶ Normal and Pathological anat. (changes associated with diseases).

Topographical anatomy

Generally the subjects are various **specific regions** of the human body with all structures included there **regardless of their function**

i. e. regional anatomy of:

e.g. thorax, abdomen, limbs...

→→→ **H+N.**

Topographical anatomy of Head and Neck

Usually a **course of the description** is

- from the surface
- to the deeper layers.

RULES IN TOPOGRAPHIC ANATOMY

1/ Importance

2/ No separation

3/ Variations

4/ Terminology

Rules in topograph. anat.

1/ IMPORTANCE

= What is less important (e. g. regarding life, function) is more superficially located

- Arteries are more deeply than the veins
- Trunks of nerves more deeply than the small nerve branches...

Rules in topograph. anat.

2/ NO SEPARATION

= Many structures have always close relationship

- The vessels are usually accompanied with nerves (neurovascular bundle)
- Blood vessels (aa., vv.) and lymphatic vessels pass thorough the body together

Rules in topograph. anat.

3/ VARIATIONS

= Systematic anatomy has large degree of variations

from 50 % to 99 % by various regions

(especially under some pathological conditions)

Rules in topograph. anat.

4/ TERMINOLOGY

= The Latine terms are precise
and avoid use of unnecessary words.

„You will start to build your medical vocabulary.“